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PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT DIES

Harry S. Truman Sworn in as Chief Executive

Yanks Nearing Suburban Berlin

U.S. 9th Reported Within 49 Miles of Reich Capital After Crossing Elbe

PARIS, April 12. (U.P.)—American 9th Army tank forces crashed over the Elbe River today and were reported approaching the suburban area of Berlin tonight. One semi-official report placed the Yanks within 49 miles of the Reich capital.

A strict security blackout, lifted temporarily to reveal that the 9th Army's 2nd Armored Division had bridged the Elbe in the Magdeburg area, hid movements of the tank forces beyond the river—last natural barrier before Berlin.

Rumors and speculation of all kinds swept throughout the world as the Battle of Berlin neared its climactic stage. One wholly unconfirmed report said that Allied paratroopers had landed only 16 miles from the Reich capital in the path of the advancing Americans.

Fierce Resistance

Charging in from the east, the Russians were meeting fierce resistance on the approaches to Berlin, Radio Moscow said, but in the west the American tanks were believed speeding along virtually unopposed down the homestretch.

A junction between the Americans and Russians seemed near. Secretary of War Stimson said in Washington that the east-west forces now are 75 miles apart at some points.

At last reported positions Wednesday night the Russians and Americans were 117 miles apart. Tonight, on the basis of the report the Yanks were within 49 miles of Berlin, they would be about 105 miles from the Russians, including the approximate 25 miles across the city of Berlin.

At the same time, the American 3rd and 1st armies swept on across the waist of Germany to within 19 miles of the Czechoslovakian border and 129 miles of the last known Russian positions along the Neisse River.

Weimar Overrun

Lunging from 30 to 46 miles in the past 24 hours, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's armor overran Weimar, birthplace of the German republic which Adolf Hitler spawned in his rise to power.

Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's U.S. 7th Army fighting on the approaches to the Nazis' inner mountain citadel in Bavaria met the stiffest resistance on the entire front, but they cleared the

Turn to Page 7, Column 4

Final Berlin Drive Seen as Battle Rages on Oder

LONDON, April 12. (U.P.)—The Moscow radio reported tonight that heavy battles were raging west of the Oder before Berlin, indicating that Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov had launched his final drive on the Reich capital in concert with Allied forces moving on the city from the west.

The Soviet high command communique did not confirm the report, but said Russian armies had cut the last serviceable German escape lines from Vienna and had mopped up 60 blocks of the comparatively small area inside the Austrian capital where German diehards are holding out. Berlin said the Russians' Danube flotilla had landed troops amid these last German positions.

Vast Movement Reported

The daily German communique failed to mention the Berlin sector, but Berlin commentators told of vast movements of troops and weapons along Zhukov's front from Stettin Bay to the confluence of the Oder and Neisse rivers.

Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2nd Ukrainian Army, outflanking Vienna from the north side of the Danube, cut the Vienna-Brno railroad and parallel highway by capturing the rail town of Eibesbrunn, six miles north of Vienna's trans-Danube suburb, Floridsdorf, the communique broadcast from Moscow said.

This left the Germans with only a line out of Vienna to the northwest hugging the north bank of the Danube and under point-blank fire from Soviet positions across the river. Soviet guns "zeroed in" on this last Nazi life line cut off virtually all traffic.

The communique also announced the capture of more

Turn to Page 7, Column 7

(AP) photo

DEATH COMES — Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States for 12 years, died at his cottage at Warm Springs, Ga., yesterday afternoon of cerebral hemorrhage.

Cerebral Hemorrhage Fatal to Nation's Chief at Warm Springs Retreat

WASHINGTON, April 12. (U.P.) — President Franklin D. Roosevelt died suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage at 4:35 p.m., E.W.T., today (1:35 p.m., P.W.T.) and Harry S. Truman was sworn in at 7:08 p.m. as the 32nd President of the United States.

Mr. Roosevelt, the first man ever to serve more than two terms as President, died in the "Little White House" at Warm Springs, Ga., as armies he helped to muster drove toward final victory over Nazi Germany.

Worn out at 63, he died as other forces fighting in freedom's name foretold the doom of militarist Japan.

He died on the eve of what he had hoped would be the inauguration of an era of peace in a world at long last free of want and fear.

Mr. Roosevelt left as his successor the 61-year-old Harry Truman of Independence, Mo., a man who never wanted to be President. Mr. Truman took the oath of office from Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone less than three hours after Mr. Roosevelt died.

Aims to Carry On Policies

The new Chief Executive's first statement was:

"It will be my effort to carry on as I believe the President would have done, and to that end I have asked the Cabinet to stay on with me."

Mr. Truman's second act as President was to instruct Secretary of State Stettinius to go ahead "as planned" with what perhaps was Mr. Roosevelt's dearest project—the United Nations conference at San Francisco April 25 to chart a road to peace.

Mr. Roosevelt's body will be brought here tomorrow. Mrs. Roosevelt went to Warm Springs by plane tonight to accompany her husband back to the White House for the last time.

Funeral services will be conducted in the East Room of the White House on Saturday at 4 p.m. Mr. Roosevelt's last resting place will be on the ancestral estate he loved at Hyde Park, N.Y., where he will be buried Sunday.

Capital Stunned at News

Tentative plans call for departure of the Presidential funeral train from Warm Springs at 8 a.m., C.W.T., tomorrow. It will reach Washington early the next morning.

The body will not lie in state.

The President's death before realization of the victory he worked so hard to assure shocked the world and stunned this capital. It occurred on a pleasant spring day in a charming little room overlooking a green and lovely Georgia valley.

He died in his quarters at the Warm Springs Foundation which he called his "second home." He called it that because in Warm Springs' healing waters he had often found surcease from infantile paralysis, the affliction which he had borne without murmur since 1924.

The news of Mr. Roosevelt's death was flashed to Washington from Warm Springs shortly after 4:35 p.m., E.W.T. The President's old friend, White House Secretary Stephen T. Early, broke the news to Mrs. Roosevelt. She took it with shoulders squared and head high. Talking it over with "Steve" and Vice-Adm. Ross T. McIntire, the President's friend and physician, she said:

"I am more sorry for the people of the country and the world than I am for us."

Mrs. Roosevelt Notifies Sons

Then she cabled a brief message to each of the President's four sons, all of whom are fighting.

She told them their father did his job to the end as he would want them to do. She said bless you all and all our love and signed herself, "Mother."

Having dispatched the cables, Mrs. Roosevelt turned to Mr. Truman who was to take over her husband's job.

"Is there any way we can help you?" she said.

He shook his head.

Shortly after 7 p.m., Mrs. Roosevelt—tall, erect and in black—left the White House for the airport and Warm Springs.

Her daughter, Mrs. Anna Boettiger, escorted her to a black limousine.

Presidential Secretary Early and Vice-Adm. McIntire followed Mrs. Roosevelt into the car.

Her face was drawn and gray. The party lingered a few minutes as daughter Anna, incongruously wearing a bright red suit, leaned against the open door and exchanged a last conversation with her mother. As the cavalcade started off, Mrs. Roosevelt looked out at a sprinkling of saddened servants and reporters and slightly bowed her head.

The plane bearing Mrs. Roosevelt, Early and McIntire to Warm Springs left at 7:40 p.m. and arrived there about midnight.

Mr. Roosevelt had served 12 years, 1 month and 8 days

Turn to Page 2, Column 3

Harry S. Truman Sworn In as 32nd President

WASHINGTON, April 12. (U.P.) Harry S. Truman,. onetime $3 a week "bottle duster" in a small-town Missouri drugstore, was sworn in as the 32nd President of the United States at 7:08 (E.W.T.) today (4:08 p.m., P.W.T.,) succeeding Franklin Delano Roosevelt, whose war and domestic policies he vowed to carry on.

In his first official act, he authorized Secretary of State Stettinius to announce that the San Francisco world security conference will be held April 25, as scheduled. Mr. Roosevelt would have wanted it that way.

Will Press War

In his first official pronouncement, the new President said:

"The world may be sure that we will prosecute the war on both fronts, east and west, with all the vigor we possess, to a successful conclusion."

White House Secretary Jonathan Daniels, who made the pronouncement public, said Mr. Truman will be on the job at the White House at 9 a.m. tomorrow and probably will hold a conference with Army and Navy leaders later in the day.

The new President and Commander-in-Chief, who will be 61 on May 8, took the oath from Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone in a brief, solemn ceremony in the Cabinet Room of the White House.

Asked to Stay

Even before taking the oath he had asked all members of Mr. Roosevelt's Cabinet to stay in office and help him complete the job of winning the war and writing the peace.

He pledged himself to carry on the policies of his predecessor. Daniels said that would mean "a most vigorous prosecution of the war."

The swearing-in ceremony was witnessed by Cabinet members and other high-ranking government officials. Behind the new President stood Mrs. Truman, her face tear-stained.

He used a Bible brought from Mr. Roosevelt's office. He held it in his left hand and placed his right hand on top while Stone pronounced the oath from memory. Mr. Truman repeated

Turn to Page A, Column 6

Harry S. Truman's 'S' Just an Initial

WASHINGTON, April 12. (AP) — President Harry S. Truman's middle initial "S" is just an initial—it has no name significance.

It represents a compromise by his parents.

One of his grandfathers had the first name Solomon, the other Shippe.

Not wanting to play favorites between the two, the President's parents decided on the "S."

News of Death Shocks City

Illustrated on Page 3, Part I

Los Angeles, stunned by the news of the President's death, carried on like a mighty army yesterday, vowing to win speedily the war for which the Commander-in-Chief was fighting.

As the word flashed across the nation, literally thousands of flags were lowered, from the Los Angeles City Hall to suburban cities throughout Southern California.

"The President is dead!" sounded the loud-speakers in the war plants—the vast airplane, rubber, aluminum, shipbuilding, oil and other industries supplying the armed forces everywhere.

The workers—scores of thousands of them—took the jolt like the man in the street on Broadway. There was sadness, yes, but not despair.

Like a football team whose quarterback is injured and replaced, the factory workers pledged their willingness to stand the blow—to make sure that Berlin falls quickly and that Tokyo is subdued.

Generally there was a minute of silence. Then, as if answering a skipper's call of "Full

Turn to Page 2, Column 4

President Stricken as He Poses for Portrait

WARM SPRINGS (Ga.) April 12. (U.P.)—Relaxed, in fine spirits, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt sat in front of the fireplace in his cottage here, posing for a portrait artist.

It was 1 p.m. today.

Suddenly, he said:

"I have a terrific headache."

At 1:15 p.m. he fainted. At 3:35 p.m. (C.W.T.) he died, without having regained consciousness, of what was described medically as "a massive cerebral hemorrhage."

At President's Side

Only three persons were with the President when he died in his quarters at the Warm Springs Foundation for infantile paralysis victims. They were Comdr. Howard G. Bruenn on the staff of Vice-Adm. Ross T. McIntire, Navy Surgeon General, who is Mr. Roosevelt's personal physician; Lt. Comdr. George Fox, a White House medical aide, and Dr. James Paullin, Atlanta physician, who had been summoned when the President was stricken ill.

Mrs. Roosevelt and his only daughter, Mrs. Anna Boettiger, were in Washington; his four sons were on duty with the armed forces. In the cottage called the Little White House, but not in his room, were his cousins, Miss Margaret Suckley and Miss Laura Delano. With them were his private secretary, Grace Tulley, and White House Secretary William Hassett.

Arrives by Plane

Mrs. Roosevelt arrived here by plane about midnight to accompany the body back to Washington. She was accompanied by Adm. McIntire and Stephen T. Early, secretary to the President and one of his oldest friends.

They flew by Army plane from Washington, landing about 40 miles from here at Ft. Benning. They made the trip to Warm Springs by automobile and Mrs. Roosevelt went immediately to the "Little White House" where the President died.

Death came to him on a pleasant spring day. The scene was a little room overlooking a green and lovely Georgia valley.

So far from death were the President's thoughts when he began his last day that he had planned an unusually busy afternoon and evening. He had planned to attend a minstrel show.

The President had been in Warm Springs—which he called his "second home"—since March 30. Most of the preceding week he had spent at his home in Hyde Park, N.Y.

Reporters Notified

The news of Mr. Roosevelt's death came from Hassett. He called in three press association reporters who had accompanied the President here and said:

"It is my sad duty to inform you that the President died at 3:35 of a cerebral hemorrhage."

The news was telephoned simultaneously to Washington.

Mr. Roosevelt's last words were: "I have a terrific headache."

He had put his hand sudden-

Turn to Page A, Column 1

SECRETARY OF STATE STETTINIUS NEXT IN LINE FOR OFFICE

WASHINGTON, April 12. (AP)—Accession of Vice-President Truman to the Presidency moves Secretary of State Stettinius up to next in line for the office.

The Vice-Presidency itself remains vacant, but Sen. Kenneth D. McKellar of Tennessee, president pro-tempore, becomes permanent presiding officer of the Senate. In the new position he will receive an additional $5000 a year.

Congress long ago provided for a Presidential succession ranging through seven Cabinet positions.

In event of the death, removal or resignation of a Vice-President who has succeeded to the Presidency, the line is this: Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Attorney General, Postmaster General, Secretary of the Navy, Secretary of the Interior.

JAP SUICIDE FLYERS SINK DESTROYER AT OKINAWA

GUAM, April 13. (AP)—Japanese warplanes renewed their suicidal attacks on American amphibious forces off Okinawa yesterday, sinking one destroyer and damaging several other surface units, Fleet-Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said in today's communique.

All damaged U.S. ships remained in action.

One hundred and eleven Japanese planes were shot down in an afternoon attack after seven had been downed in a morning raid.

Nimitz said "Large numbers of enemy aircraft made desperate attacks on our forces in the Okinawa area."

The afternoon attack, in great strength, also reached to the Yank land forces, for Nimitz said shore-based anti-aircraft as well as ships' guns and carrier planes shared in downing the 111 Japanese planes.

Gains Scored

Nimitz also disclosed the presence on Okinawa of four more divisions, bringing to six the number officially ashore on Okinawa and near-by islands.

Two of the newly named divisions are marines: the 6th and 1st. The other two are Army: the 27th and 96th.

Nimitz previously reported the 77th Army Division captured eight islands in the Kerama Rhetto group, just west of Southern Okinawa, and that the 7th Army Division is moving on Yonaberu town and airfield on Eastern Okinawa.

The 6th Marine Division continued its advances on Motobu Peninsula against sporadic re-

Turn to Page 6, Column 1

THE WORLD'S WAR FRONTS

WESTERN FRONT—U.S. 9th Army crosses Elbe River and reported approaching suburban area of Berlin. Page 1.

EASTERN FRONT—Moscow reports heavy battles raging west of Oder before Berlin, indicating Reds have launched final drive on Berlin. Page 1.

ITALIAN FRONT—British and Nazis locked in battle as 8th Army hammers westward from three bridgeheads across Salerno. Page 7.

PACIFIC—Jap suicide flyers sink U.S. destroyer and damage other ships in attacks off Okinawa. Page 1.

FEATURES INDEX

Millions of Workers Living Hand-to-Mouth

Despite wartime employment prosperity, a survey by the American Institute of Public Opinion discloses that millions of working Americans are living a hand-to-mouth existence. Turn to Page 8, Part I, for the surprising article by George Gallup.

On Other Pages

AMUSEMENTS. Page 9, Part I.
COMICS. Page 7, Part II.
FINANCIAL. Page 6, Part II.
HOPPER. Page 9, Part I.
POLYZOIDES. Page 7, Part I.
RADIO. Page 3, Part II.
RATION POINTERS. Page 5, Part II.
SOUTHLAND. Page 2, Part II.
SPORTS. Page 8, Part II.
VITAL RECORD. Page 10, Part I.
WEATHER. Page 10, Part I.
WOMEN. Page 5, Part II.

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